

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1, 8, and 17 have been amended as follows:

1. (Amended) A fusion protein for the alleviation of symptoms associated with an autoimmune disorder comprising an immunoglobulin or portion thereof linked to one or more autoantigenic polypeptides or fragments thereof wherein said immunoglobulin or portion thereof is capable of binding to an Fc receptor and being endocytosed by an antigen presenting cell and said one or more autoantigenic polypeptides or fragments thereof is derived from a protein responsible for an autoimmune disease and provides ~~more than~~ at least one T cell receptor peptide agonist for presentation on the surface of said antigen presenting cell upon endocytic processing.

8. (Amended) A method for alleviating symptoms associated with an autoimmune disorder in a patient in need thereof comprising the steps of:

providing a composition comprising a fusion protein wherein said fusion protein comprises an immunoglobulin or portion thereof linked to one or more autoantigenic polypeptides or fragments thereof wherein said immunoglobulin or portion thereof is capable of binding to an Fc receptor and being endocytosed by an antigen presenting cell and said one or more autoantigenic polypeptides or fragments thereof is derived from a protein responsible for an autoimmune disease and provides ~~more than~~ at least one T cell receptor peptide agonist for presentation on the surface of said antigen presenting cell upon endocytic processing; and administering a therapeutically effective amount of said composition to said patient.

17. (Amended) A method for presenting multiple T cell receptor agonists on the surface of a professional or nonprofessional antigen presenting cell comprising the steps of:

providing a fusion protein comprising an immunoglobulin or portion thereof linked to one or more autoantigenic polypeptides or fragments thereof wherein said immunoglobulin or portion thereof is capable of binding to an Fc receptor and being endocytosed by an antigen presenting cell and said one or more autoantigenic polypeptides or fragments thereof is derived from a protein responsible for an autoimmune disease and provides ~~more than~~ at least one T cell

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receptor peptide agonist for presentation on the surface of said antigen presenting cell upon endocytic processing;

contacting said fusion protein with at least one Fc receptor present on a surface of a professional or nonprofessional antigen presenting cell whereby the fusion protein is internalized by the antigen presenting cell; and endocytically processing the internalized fusion protein to provide ~~more than~~ at least one T cell receptor peptide agonist wherein the provided T cell receptor agonists are presented on the surface of the antigen presenting cell.